

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY:IO:UNP:CSYLVESTER

APPROVED BY:IO:LKAHN

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R 172352Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 164555

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE WASHDC INFO DAR ES SALAAM

AUGUST 17, 1973 FROM USUN NEW YORK IS REPEATED TO YOU:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2894

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN RQ

SUB: PUERTO RICO IN COMITE OF 24

REF: USUN 2887

1. COMITE OF 24 PLENARY BEGAN DEBATE ON PUERTO RICO MORNING
AUG 16 BY ADOPTING ITS WORKING GROUP'S VAGUE RECOMMENDATIONS
REFTEL (BEING REPEATED SEPTTEL TO DAR-ES-SALAAM). ONLY
SPEAKER WAS CUBAN AMB ALARCON, WHO DEMANDED THAT COMITE
IMMEDIATELY ADOPT RES THAT PUERTO RICO IS US COLONY AND WHO
DEVOTED MOST OF HIS ONE AND ONE-HALF HOUR HARANGUE TO ATTACKING
PROPOSED PETROCHEMICAL SUPERPORT COMPLEX FOR ISLAND AS WELL
AS RECENTLY ESTABLISHED US-PR AD HOC COMITE. HE ENDED PRE-
SENTATION WITH GRAB BAG TEN POINT RES CALLING FOR EVERYTHING
FROM RELEASE OF "POLITICAL PRISONERS" FROM US AND PUERTO
RICAN JAILS TO WITHDRAWAL OF ALL US MILITARY FROM PR
FORTHWITH. COMITE CHAIRMAN SALIM SAID THAT COMITE WOULD
CONSIDER, INTER ALIA, CUBAN AMB'S "SUGGESTIONS" (SINCE
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CUBA NOT MEMBER OF COMITE IT CANNOT INTRODUCE RESES).

2. SALIM NOW CONSULTING WITH COMITE MEMBERS ON REQUEST OF TWO PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE LEADERS FOR HEARING BEFORE COMITE IN COURSE OF CURRENT DEBATE. ACCORDING TO COMITE VICE CHAIRMAN (IRANIAN DEPUTY PERMREP EHSASSI), SALIM BELIEVES COMITE MUST DECIDE IN NEXT FEW DAYS WHETHER IT WILL GRANT THEM HEARING AND IS FLOATING SO-CALLED COMPROMISE WHEREBY INDEPENDENCE LEADERS COULD SPEAK DURING THIS SESSION WITHOUT PREJUDICING COMITE'S FINAL DECISION ON PR. EHSASSI, WHO HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO CONSULT WITH COMITE MEMBERS, BELIEVES SO-CALLED COMPROMISE HAS GOOD CHANCE OF APPROVAL SINCE IF IT PUT TO VOTE IT WILL PASS BY NARROW MAJORITY. AT MISOFF'S URGING, EHSASSI HAS AGREED TO SLOW DOWN PACE OF CONSULTATIONS IN ORDER TO POSTPONE DECISION UNTIL EARLY NEXT WEEK.

3. MISOFFS MEET MORNING AUG 17 BEFORE NEXT COMITE 24 SESSION WITH AUSTRALIANS, IRANIANS AND POSSIBLY SWEDES, TO CONSULT ON TACTICS. WE BELIEVE PUSHING ISSUE TO VOTE MAY BE BEST COURSE OF ACTION BECAUSE MEMBERS OF COMITE, WHO REALIZE THAT ISSUE OF GREAT CONCERN TO US, MAY HAVE SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT THEIR POSITION WHEN FORCED TO STATE IT FOR THE RECORD. WE WILL NOW MAKE HIGH-LEVEL REPRESENTATIONS HERE.
SCALI
UNUORE ROGERS

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